Pradesh is inadequate to meet the requirement of the State:

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to increase the strength of the Cantonment;

(c) if so, the number of new divisions or units proposed to be set up there: and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d). The location and strength of any Cantonment have no relation to the requirement of the concerned State. Such decisions are taken on the basis of operational considerations, availability of adequate land and infrastructure and accessibility of the site by rail/road.

There is presently no proposal for locating additional military formations/units in Secunderabad.

Reparyment of credit to USSR

1458. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) the amount to be repaid to USSR on account of substantial earlier credit;

(b) whether the Government have assured that the repayment of credit would be in rupees;

(c) if so, the vires of the USSR in this regard due to change in its configuration; and

(d) the arrangement proposed to be made in the matter of foreign exchange in future dealings with USSR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The amount of credit repayable to USSR as on 31st March, 1991 works out to Rs, 2204.34 crores at the then prevailing exchange rate of Rouble 1=Rs. 23.4019

(b) to (d). According to agreements in force, Soviet credits are denominated in Roubles and the repayment of principal and payment of interest are made in non-convertible Indian rupees, which are utilised by the soviet authorities for purchase of Indian goods for export to USSR. Hence there is no outgo of free foreign exchange involved by way of debt servicing payments under the credits.

Financial assistance to new Cooperative sugar factories in Maharashtra

1459. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the MINISTER of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of proposal for financial assistance to new cooperative sugar factories in Maharashtra are pending with the Industrial Finance Corporation of India and other financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite grant of financial assistance to these new co-oprerative sugar factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) have reported that 27 applications envisaging setting up of grass root new sugar projects of 2500 TCD in the Cooperative Sector from Maharashtra arepending with the institutions as on date.

(b) Details of these cases are given in the enclosed statement. Insfitutions have